The Original Script

Red Riding Hood

as presented at

The Pavilion, Worthing

Saturday 28th December, 1957

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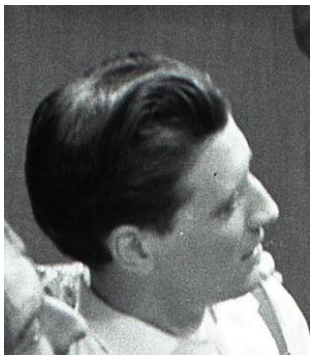
The Cast

Nan (village shopkeeper) Nancy Taylor	 Jack (the woodman) Pamela Ashton	Tom (the woodman) Maureen Phipps
Leader of the Gypsies Phyllis Collier	 Cookie Tony Stead	 Bob (odd-job man) Colin Goddard
Tanner (odd-job man) Graham Betteley	 Granma Derek Bell	 Red Riding Hood Josephine Tedder
 Hal Susan Gill	 Evil Spirit Arthur Thurley	Good Fairy Valerie Bilham

The Script

R E D R I D I N G H O O D .

SCENE I. Garden of Red Riding Hood's House.

SCENE II. The Village Shop.

SCENE III. The Wood.

SCENE IV. The Land of Snow and Ice.

SCENE V. Outside the Cottage.

SCENE VI. In the Cottage.

SCENE VII. At the Palace.

C A S T .

Red Riding Hood.	Josephine Tedder.
Woodcutter (Hal).	Susan Gill.
The Cook (Cookie).	Tony Stead.
Granma.	
Evil Spirit and The Wolf.	Arthur Thurley.
Good Fairy.	Valerie Bilham.
)The odd)job men.)	Jack Clifton. Graham Betteley.
Village Shopkeeper.	Nancy Taylor.
Head Woodcutter.	Maureen Phipps.
Another Woodcutter.	Pamela Ashton.
Gypsy Leader.	Phyllis Collier.

SCENE 1. THE GARDEN. (IT IS RED RIDING HOOD'S BIRTHDAY. WOODMEN, GYPSIES AND CHILDREN ARE DANCING TO "ONCE A YEAR DAY.")
ENTER NAN.

NAN: Hello everyone.

ALL: Hello Nan.

PAM: Have you come to wish Red Riding Hood a Happy Birthday?

NAN: Yes indeed, and I have brought her a present.

MAUREEN: We have nearly everything ready for the party now. We are just waiting for her to return from the village.

NAN: I hope she has a nice birthday. She has a hard life trying to make ends meet and looking after Granma whenever the old lady thinks she is ill.

PHYLLIS: Granma is well to-day Nan. She didn't want to miss the party.

NAN: I'm glad to hear it. At least Red Riding Hood wont have to go to the cottage in the wood to-day.

MAUREEN: Cookie has made some lovely cakes. Ah. here comes Cookie now.

ENTER COOKIE - COMIC ENTRANCE.

COOKIE: (COUNTING OFF ON FINGERS) I've peeled the chicken, stuffed the apples, melted the eggs and hard-boiled the helly -(CROWD LAUGHS) Oh dear, I'm in such a tiz-was I don't know what I'm saying or doing.

NAN: Is the food all ready for the party Cookie?

COOKIE: Just about my dear. I wonder if some of you would go and set it out for me?

BIG GIRLS: Yes Cookie - Of course Cookie (etc.) (THEY EXIT.)

(THE CHILDREN ARE LOOKING AT A PUZZLE.)

BARRY: You have nearly done it Carol. That's it.

LINDA: Now it's my turn.

CAROL: No it's not. (THEY START TO QUARREL).

COOKIE: Now children what is all the noise about?

LINDA: I didn't get my turn.

CAROL: Yes she did.

BARRY: I haven't had a turn at all yet.

COOKIE: Hush children. Don't you know you must give and take all through life?

CHILDREN: Must we?

COOKIE: Certainly (LEAD INTO "GOOD COMPANIONS" - CHILDREN EXIT AT END).

COOKIE: Now I wonder where and are? Fast asleep as usual I expect. (CALLS OFF STAGE) , , come here at once. (ENTER and).

GRAHAM: Were you calling us?

COOKIE: No I was crooning a lullaby.

JACK: How is my little nightingale to-day?

COOKIE: (BRIDLING): Oh I'm in fine feather.

GRAHAM: Will you lend me a shilling Jack?

JACK: No I won't. If I start lending you money it will probably break up a beautiful friendship.

GRAHAM: Well lend me a shilling and I'll try to get along without you. What about you Cookie?

COOKIE: It's no use asking me for money, Red Riding Hood is so poor I have'nt had the heart to ask her for any wages for weeks. (ENTER GRANMA) When her father died all he left her was a huge pile of bills.

GRANMA: Ah that's right. No one ever left a better lot of bills than he did, I was really proud of him. It took a life-time to get a collection like that together.

COOKIE: Do you know I'm very excited.

JACK, GRAHAM & GRANMA: What is it?

COOKIE: I met a man this morning, and when he saw me he smiled and broke into verse.

GRANMA: I thought you were going to say he broke into a run.

COOKIE: No, this is what he said -
"As on those lips I press a kiss,
I murmur, oh the sweet young miss,
I've sipped from many a cup of bliss, -

GRANMA: But never from a mug like this.

(BUSINESS OF COOKIE CHASING GRANMA.) (Possibly lines here to lead up to dance.)
(ENTER MAUREEN).

MAUREEN: Red Riding Hood is coming along the lane now Cookie. We are all going to hide, then surprise her.

COOKIE: We will hide too. Go along the Three Graces quickly.

(JACK AND GRAHAM GO TO FLOWERS AT SIDE OF STAGE AND PUT THEIR HEADS DOWN AND BOTTOMS IN THE AIR. GRANMA TROTS ROUND LETTING OUT LITTLE SQUEAKS AND TRIES TO HIDE BEHIND TREE STUMP. COOKIE SEES WHAT IS HAPPENING AND GIVES GRANMA A PUSH OFF STAGE THEN GOES TO JACK AND GRAHAM, SLAPS THEM KNOCKS THEIR HEADS TOGETHER AND YANKS THEM OFF. ENTER RED RIDING HOOD.)

RED RIDING HOOD: How quiet it is in the garden to-day. I thought some of my friends would be here to wish me a happy birthday. Even Cookie forgot my birthday wishes this morning.

(CHILDREN, GYPSIES, WOODMEN, JACK, GRAHAM, COOKIE, NAN AND GRANMA ALL POP OUT SAYING "Happy Birthday" AND GIVING HER PRESENTS.)

RED RIDING HOOD: Thank you, thank you. How silly of me to think you had forgotten me.

(SOME OF THE PRESENTS CAN BE OPENED HERE, INCLUDING FUNNY ONES FROM JACK, GRAHAM AND COOKIE.)

LINES TO LEAD UP TO SONG BY RED RIDING HOOD.

(BUSINESS OF COOKIE AND GRANMA CRYING ETC.,)

NAN: All the villagers, the woodmen and the gypsies from the woods have clubbed together to give you a party Red Riding Hood.

RED RIDING HOOD: What a wonderful surprise.

MAUREEN: We are taking the afternoon off so that we can come.

RED RIDING HOOD: How nice of you. It will mean you working awfully hard at felling trees tomorrow won't it?

PAM: Oh, we have a new woodman joining us today so we will get through the work in time.

RED RIDING HOOD: If you all like to go into the house and taks some of my presents, I will see to the others and join you in a few minutes.

COOKIE: Don't be long dearie (EXIT, ALSO ALL OTHERS. RED RIDING HOOD COLLECTS ONE OR TWO PARCELS. ENTER HAL THE NEW WOODMAN WHO SEES HER).

HAL: (Aside) What a pretty girl. I must find out who she is. (LOUDER) Pardon me - (RED RIDING HOOD TURNS AND LOOKS AT HIM).

HAL: Can you tell me where I can find the band of woodmen who are working somewhere nearby?

RED RIDING HOOD: Indeed yes. They are all at my birthday party. Would - would you like to come too.?

HAL: It would be a great pleasure. It will give me a chance to get to know you.

SONG "GETTING TO KNOW YOU." EXIT TOGETHER HAPPILY.
LIGHTS DIM SPOT P. & OP. (ENTER EVIL SPIRIT PS AND FAIRY OP).

EVIL SPIRIT: Oh How I hate to see laughter and gladness,
I much prefer to see sorrow and sadness.

FAIRY: My life is spent spreading sunshine and laughter,
By peace, true love and joy ever after.

EVIL SPIRIT: There is too much happiness here for my liking. I must see to it that things are altered soon.

FAIRY: You are forgetting Evil One that good always overcomes evil no matter how hard you try.

EVIL SPIRIT: Why do you have to follow me around? You upset all my best plans.

FAIRY: I hope I am always about at the right times to thwart you. Why can't you leave poor Red Riding Hood alone?

EVIL SPIRIT: Because I hate to see people happy. This time I'm going to beat you if I can.

FAIRY: No harm can come to Red Riding Hood if I keep near her all the time. (EXIT).

EVIL SPIRIT: Somehow I must find a way of getting rid of that fairy. She is a nuisance (LINE LEADING TO SONG? EXIT) (ENTER MIME FOR ACT.)

(ENTER RED RIDING HOOD AND COOKIE.)

RED RIDING HOOD: What a lovely party I'm having Cookie.

COOKIE: Yes you are but what is the idea of making eyes at the new young woodman?

RED RIDING HOOD (Bashfully) Oh, I wasn't Cookie.

COOKIE: Oh yes you were I saw you. Now you tell Cookie all about it.

RED RIDING HOOD: Oh Cookie isn't he wonderful?

COOKIE: He looks a nice enough lad, but you don't know anything about him.

RED RIDING HOOD: I do, I do. He is kind and gentle and says the most wonderful things.

COOKIE: So does my Insurance man. Now don't you go falling in love with him.

RED RIDING HOOD: But Cookie I'm in love with him already.

COOKIE: But he is only a poor wood-cutter. You ought to marry a Prince.

RED RIDING HOOD: (LINE TO SONG?).

COOKIE: Well my dear, if he really is the right one for you I'll be delighted, but look before you leap. (LINE ABOUT HER LATE HUSBAND). EXIT.

ENTER HAL.

HAL: Red Riding Hood I couldn't help hearing what you were saying. Do you really mean it?

RED RIDING HOOD: Yes of course I do.

HAL: What a wonderful day this has been. Now Red Riding Hood some of your guests want to entertain you (ENTER GYPSY, BALLET DANCERS, PRINCIPALS AND CHILDREN.)

RED RIDING HOOD: That will be lovely. Let us gather round to watch.

(ALL TAKE POSITIONS). GYPSY DANCE TO BRAHMS HUNGARIAN DANCE FOLLOWED BY:
(a) (b) GYPSY MOON.
POLICEMEN DANCE IN FRONT OF TABS.

SCENE 2. THE VILLAGE SHOP.
(ENTRANCE C.B. COUNTER EITHER SIDE OF ENTRANCE, CHAIRS IN FRONT OF COUNTERS. NAN IS DUSTING.) ENTER COOKIE.

COOKIE: That's a nice step.

NAN: Do you like it Cookie? I love dancing.

COOKIE: So do I, but I'm usually too busy to have much chance for it.

NAN: Well I've a few minutes before I have to go out so shall we dance?

SONG AND DANCE (SHALL WE DANCE?).

COOKIE: Now Nan I will look after the shop for you for a little while so that you can pop across to old Mrs. Smith.

NAN: Thank you so much Cookie. Goodbye.

COOKIE: Tootle whatsit (NAN EXIT).

(BIT OF MIMING WITH STOCK. ENTER WOMAN FURTIVELY.)

COOKIE: Its alright dearie. No-one is likely to be following you.

WOMAN: Excuse me, but could you tell me - (WHISPERS).

COOKIE: Yes of course - down the road, first right, first left.
(WOMAN EXITS COOKIE WATCHES.)

COOKIE: My word, she is in a hurry - (PAUSE) Fancy being as anxious as that to see where the Winter Garden was is going to be.

(ENTER CHILD).

CHILD: Please I want a threepenny bar of chocolate for twopence, but I've only got a penny and I've lost that.

COOKIE: (RATHER BEWILDERED): Come again?

CHILD: I want a threepenny bar of chocolate for twopence but I've only got a penny and I've lost that. (COOKIE COUNTING ON FINGERS.)

CHILD: I want a -

COOKIE: I know - you take your chocolate, it's easier.

CHILD: Thanks sucker. (EXIT).

COOKIE: Well I don't seem to be doing very well so far. I wonder who will come in next.

(ENTER GRANMA.)

GRANMA: Ah the very person I wanted to see. I want a new hat, a hat which will do something for me.

COOKIE: It will have to do an awful lot by the look of it Granma.

GRANMA: Oh I don't know. After all, what has Jayne Mansfield got that I haven't got?

COOKIE: Nothing, but you've had it a lot longer. Anyway come over to the drapery counter. (CROSSES TO P.S. ENTER MAN WHO GOES TO GROCERY COUNTER O.P.)

COOKIE: Good morning Sir. Take a chair. (TURNS TO GRANMA, MAN PICKS UP CHAIR AND WALKS OUT).

GRANMA: He's gone Cookie. Do you know who he is?

COOKIE: He must be a chair-holder.
(BOTH LAUGH. ENTER JACK CARRYING JAR.)

JACK: I want some groceries.

COOKIE: Ah grocery (PUTS ON WHITE APRON AND GOES TO OTHER COUNTER). Now what is your order?

JACK: Threepennyworth of treacle please.

COOKIE: (SARCASTICALLY) Would you like me to send it?

JACK: Oh no, don't bother, I can manage.

COOKIE: You amaze me. (MEASURES OUT TREACLE.) Where is your money?

JACK: In the bottom of the jar. (BUSINESS.)

GRANMA: What about a bit of service over here.

COOKIE: Coming Granma. (TAKES OFF APRON.) Now how about this model.

GRANMA: No it's too old. I want something to make me look my age.

COOKIE (PICKS UP OLD-FASHIONED BONNET.) Well this should be about right.

GRANMA: How dare you. I'll have you know I was married practically straight out of the nursery.

JACK: I want some cheese.

COOKIE: (PUTTING ON APRON): Well I don't know whether it's safe to let it off the chain. Lets see (SHE LIFTS A LARGE COVER ON GROCERY COUNTER THEN PUTS IT BACK AGAIN QUICKLY.)

COOKIE: Just a minute. (GETS GUN AND FLY SWATTER (?) LIFTS LID AGAIN. IMMEDIATELY LID IS CLEAR CHEESE IS PULLED OFF COUNTER INTO WINGS, COOKIE FIRING AT IT AND SWATTING IT.) Sorry we are out of stock.

JACK: Well what does your writing paper run at?

COOKIE: It doesn't run - it keeps stationary! (LAUGHS AT OWN JOKE.)

GRANMA: I still want a hat (TAKES OWN HAT FROM COUNTER) That's a nice one. Why didn't you show it to me?

COOKIE (TO JACK): It's her own.

GRANMA: I like this. How much is it.

COOKIE: Two pounds ten.

GRANMA: But to me Cookie?

COOKIE: To you Granma, forty-nine and eleven.

GRANMA: I'll take it.

COOKIE: I'll put it in a bag. (USES BAG WITH NO BOTTOM SO HAT SLIPS THROUGH, TAKES MONEY FROM GRANMA, PICKS UP HAT AND PUTS IT BACK ON STAND.) Clear profit.

GRANMA: I'm going to my cottage now. I think I've got one of my funny turns coming on. (EXIT WITH JACK).

COOKIE: Now I suppose poor Red Riding Hood will have to go through those nasty dark woods every day until Granma decides she feels better. Well I might as well have a rest now for a bit, I'm feeling quite tired. A village shop is a wonderful place really - you can buy all sorts of things from soaps to shoe-laces, wool to Worcester Sauce, stockings to sticky sweets. (YAWNS, SITS DOWN, PUTS HEAD ON COUNTER AND GOES TO SLEEP. LIGHTS DIM. SPOT ON SOAP POWDERS ON COUNTER.

Dance of Soap Powders.

(SPOT ON KNITTING WOOLS.) Dance of Wools.

(SPOT ON STOCKINGS). Dance of Stockings.

ENTER RED RIDING HOOD.

RED RIDING HOOD: Wake up Cookie. I've just heard that Granma has gone back to her cottage because she doesn't feel well. I must take some food to her because she can't look after herself.

COOKIE: (ASIDE) The old trout.

RED RIDING HOOD: What did you say Cookie?

COOKIE: I said what a pity we can't afford some cold trout for her.

RED RIDING HOOD: Can you come back to the house with me and we will pack a basket for me to take.

COOKIE: Yes dearie. I can shut the shop now; its closing time.
THEY EXIT, CURTAINS CLOSE C.B. LIGHTS DIM. ENTER EVIL SPIRIT P.S.)

EVIL SPIRIT: I've managed to give that dratted fairy the slip, and what a bit of luck, I have a chance to do some really dirty work. With Granma on her own in the cottage and Red Riding Hood going through the woods by herself I ought to be able to cause a lot

of trouble. I have a really good plan to deal with both of them. (LAUGH IN SINISTER FASHION AND EXIT. DURING THIS SPEECH TABS CLOSE BEHIND EVIL SPIRIT.

SONG BY EVIL SPIRIT IN FRONT OF TABS.

SCENE 3. DANCE OF PIXIES. (EXIT) ENTER JACK & GRAHAM.

GRAHAM: Hallo, what's the matter with you? You look tired out.

JACK: So would you if you had just seen Granma safely through the woods. For a woman who is supposed to be sick she is mighty energetic.

GRAHAM: It makes me sick the way she swings the lead and makes poor Red Riding Hood work so hard looking after her. I wish we could convince the old lady there is really nothing the matter with her.

(ENTER EVIL SPIRIT P.S. GREEN SPOT ON HIM.)

JACK & GRAHAM: Ooh! (BOTH TRY TO GET AWAY FROM EVIL SPIRIT, FIRST ONE HIDING THEN THE OTHER.)

JACK: How dare you try to hide behind me when I am trying to hide behind you. (THEY ARE FINALLY STOPPED BY ARCH AND STAND QUAKING.)

EVIL SPIRIT: I overheard you saying you wish you could stop Granma thinking she is ill.

JACK: Y-y-yes, that's right.

EVIL SPIRIT: Well I can do it if you will help me.

GRAHAM: Will she really stop worrying Red Riding Hood and making her work?

EVIL SPIRIT: I can promise you that if my little plan comes off, Granma will never again think she is ill or be ill, and Red Riding Hood will not have to do any more work. (SINISTER LAUGH.)

JACK: I don't think I trust him.

GRAHAM: Don't be silly. This may be our chance to make Red Riding Hood happy for the rest of her life. (TO EVIL SPIRIT) What is it you want us to do?

EVIL SPIRIT: There is a fairy who is a real nuisance. She keeps on interfering every time I try to help, (CHUCKLE) Red Riding Hood and Granma. If you can get her out of the way for a time I'll see to it that everything works out as I want it.

GRAHAM: Why of course we will help. Wont we Jack?

JACK: Well - I don't know. (DOUBTFULLY.)

GRAHAM: Oh - you <u>are</u> slow. Don't worry sir. I'll do it.

EVIL SPIRIT: Good boy. Now the Fairy will be near Granma's Cottage later on. Directly you see her, make some excuse to get her to the other end of the wood, and leave the rest to me. (QUICK EXIT.)

JACK: Thank goodness he's gone. DANCE.

GRAHAM: We had better go straight to Granma's.

JACK: I'm not going. I didn't like that man.

GRAHAM: Oh that's just an excuse because you are tired. I'm going. (EXIT).

JACK: I think I'll go and find Cookie and see what she says about it. (EXIT).

(ENTER BIG GYPSIES, WOODMEN AND HAL.)

MAUREEN: I wonder what is the matter with Jack. He is looking very worried.

PAM: I expect he has just remembered something he was supposed to do for Cookie. She will give him socks.

HAL: He wants to be more happy-go-lucky like us. I have my troubles but I still keep smiling.

(SONG: "GYPSY IN MY SOUL" FOLLOWED BY DANCE.)

HAL: I'm so glad I've come to work here. Isn't Red Riding Hood a wonderful girl.

MAUREEN: It hasn't taken you long to lose your heart.

HAL: No indeed it hasn't. One glance was enough to tell me she was the girl for me.

PAM: Well we had better get on with our work, but I will give you a tip Hal. When Red Riding Hood goes to see Granma, she goes through the glade so keep somewhere nearby when you are working.

HAL: Thank you. I will. (HAL AND WOODMEN EXIT. ENTER COOKIE.)

COOKIE: Oh. Hello girls. Do you know I've had a proposal - in fact I've had two - from two different men! (SURPRISE BY GYPSIES.)

PHYLLIS: Tell us all about it Cookie.

OTHERS: Yes who are they?

COOKIE: Jack and Graham.

GYPSIES: Oh. (DISAPPOINTED.)

COOKIE: Well I know they are nothing to write home about, but not every girl of my age can boast one late husband and two anxious suitors.

PHYLLIS: Which one will you accept Cookie?

COOKIE: Neither for the time being - (MOVING TO EXIT) I'm going to keep them both on a string.

(GIRLS AND COOKIE EXIT. ENTER NAN AND RED RIDING HOOD.)

RED RIDING HOOD: It is kind of you to come part of the way with me Nan, but I'll be quite safe you know.

NAN: I don't like the idea of you coming through the wood alone. I am sure there are wolves about.

RED RIDING HOOD: Oh no, the last wolf in these parts was killed a long time ago I'm sure.

NAN: Well mind you take good care of yourself. I'll have to leave you soon to go and look after my shop. Why here is Hal. Now I will know I'm leaving you in good hands. (ENTER HAL)

HAL: Hello Nan, hello Red Riding Hood. (CROSSES TO RED RIDING HOOD WITHOUT A GLANCE AT NAN WHO WATCHES WITH AMUSED EXPRESSION.) How pleased I am you have come this way. (NAN WAVES GOODBYE BUT THEY DON'T NOTICE. SHE SHRUGS AND EXITS SMILING.)

RED RIDING HOOD: I always come this way when I go to see Granma.

HAL: Yes told me.

RED RIDING HOOD: Oh so you were expecting me.

HAL: Yes I was. I wanted to tell you-
(SONG)

HAL: I wish I could see you to the cottage but I must get back to my work.

(ENTER FAIRY)

FAIRY: I will take care of Red Riding Hood for you Hal. You may go knowing she is in good hands.

HAL: Thank you good Fairy. Goodbye for now Red Riding Hood, I'll call for you at the cottage this evening. (HAL EXITS RED RIDING HOOD WAVING).

FAIRY: Now my dear before you go to see your Granma, I am taking you on a trip.

RED RIDING HOOD: But I will be late getting to her.

FAIRY: No you won't. You see it will be a magic trip and that takes no time at all. Because you are kind and good you deserve a treat. Come now to the land of Snow and Ice.

RED RIDING HOOD AND FAIRY HAVE MOVED FORWARD DURING LAST SPEECH. TABS CLOSE BEHIND.)

FAIRY DANCES.

(FAIRY MOVES TO RED RIDING HOOD AT SIDE. TABS OPEN.)

SCENE 4. THE LAND OF SNOW AND ICE.

DANCE OF SNOWFLAKES.

DANCE OF PENGUINS.

DANCE OF ICICLES AND JACK FROST.

SCENE 5. OUTSIDE THE COTTAGE.

HIGHWAYMEN DANCE. EXIT.

(ENTER EVIL SPIRIT AND GRAHAM.)

EVIL SPIRIT: The time has come to put our little plan into action.

GRAHAM: Yes, so you say, but I want to know what the plan is.

EVIL SPIRIT: Don't you trust me? (TURNING SUDDENLY TO GRAHAM.)

GRAHAM: Oh....y-yes but I'd like to know what is going to happen.

EVIL SPIRIT: All you have to do is go to the glade at the end of this path and tell the Fairy that she is needed at the other end of the wood. Say Red Riding Hood sent you.

GRAHAM: But that isn't true.

EVIL SPIRIT: I know it isn't, but you want to end Red Riding Hood's troubles don't you?

GRAHAM: Yes.

EVIL SPIRIT: Well then do as you're told, and everyone will point you out as the man who did just that. - Why you will deserve a medal.

(GRAHAM STICKS OUT HIS CHEST, PATS IMAGINARY MEDAL.)

GRAHAM: Right, I'll go now. (EXITS).

EVIL SPIRIT: Aha; now to get rid of Granma. I'll get in the Cottage, then one magic spell and I will take the form of a wolf. I'll soon finish Granma off, then to wait for Red Riding Hood. (EVIL LAUGH) (GOES TO COTTAGE DOOR AND KNOCKS).

VOICE OVER SPEAKER: Who's there?

EVIL SPIRIT: (IN HIGH PITCHED VOICE) Red Riding Hood.

VOICE: Lift up the latch and walk in.

(EVIL SPIRIT RUBS HANDS IN GLEE, LIFTS LATCH, OPENS DOOR AND WALKS IN. SUDDENLY TERRIFIC RUMPUS OVER SPEAKER. THEN DOOR OPENS AND GRANMA RUNS OUT, NIGHTY UP TO KNEES AND EXITS.)

VOICE OF EVIL SPIRIT OVER SPEAKER: Foiled by Granma. I didn't think she was so spry. Never mind, Red Riding Hood is the one I am really after. I'll wait here in Granma's place.

(ENTER RED RIDING HOOD AND TAP GYPSIES).

RED RIDING HOOD: Thank you children for coming with me from your camp. I am lucky to know so many nice people.

LINDA: But don't you wish you were rich Red Riding Hood?

RED RIDING HOOD: Good gracious no. Who wants to be a millionaire?

(SONG: "WHO WANTS TO BE A MILLIONAIRE" FOLLOWED BY DANCE. CHILDREN EXIT AT END OF DANCE.)

RED RIDING HOOD: Now to see Granma. (SHE GOES TO DOOR AND KNOCKS.)

HIGH VOICE OVER SPEAKER: Who's there?

RED RIDING HOOD: Red Riding Hood, Granma.

VOICE: Lift up the latch and walk in.

(RED RIDING HOOD LIFTS LATCH OPENS DOOR AND ENTERS. TABS.)

SCENE 6. THE COTTAGE.

(RED RIDING HOOD ENTERS FROM WINGS AS THOUGH FROM FRONT DOOR. WOLF IS IN BED IN NIGHTGOWN AND CAP.)

RED RIDING HOOD: Hallo Granma. Are you feeling better?

WOLF: Yes thank you dear.

RED RIDING HOOD: I've brought you some nice things to eat. (SHE TAKES BASKET TO TABLE AND PUTS IT DOWN, THEN SITS ON CHAIR AT SIDE OF BED

RED RIDING HOOD: Why Granma, what big eyes you've got.

WOLF: All the better to see you with.

RED RIDING HOOD: Oh, and Granma what big ears you've got.

WOLF: All the better to hear you with.

NOTE: THERE COULD BE A SONG HERE BY RED RIDING HOOD FOLLOWING THESE LINES.

RED RIDING HOOD: Would you like to hear me sing a song Granma.

WOLF: Very well dear. (AFTER SONG CONTINUE AS FOLLOWS).

WOLF: That was very nice my dear.

RED RIDING HOOD: Granma what big teeth you've got.

WOLF (NORMAL VOICE) All the better to eat you with. (JUMPS OUT OF BED AND CHASES RED RIDING HOOD ROUND STAGE. JUST AS HE IS NEAR HER HAL ENTERS SWINGING AXE.)

HAL: Get away from Red Riding Hood you villain. (STRUGGLE. THEN WOLF RUNS OFF FOLLOWED BY HAL. RED RIDING HOOD WATCHES, THEN HAL RETURNS ALONE.)

HAL: You have nothing to fear now Red Riding Hood. That wolf will never worry anyone again.

RED RIDING HOOD: Thank you Hal. He would have killed me if you hadn't come.

HAL: Your good Fairy had a message from Graham that someone was in trouble at the other end of the wood. She never refuses a call for help but she thought this was a strange one, so when she saw me she asked me to come to you immediately instead of waiting until this evening.

RED RIDING HOOD: I wonder what has happened to Granma. Hal do you think-?

HAL: I hope not, and from what I know of her, I should think she is safe somewhere.

(GRANMA PEEPS OUT FROM WINGS.)

GRANMA: Is it safe to come back to my dear little cottage now?

RED RIDING HOOD AND HAL: Why it's Granma!

RED RIDING HOOD: (RUNNING OVER TO HER AND HUGGING HER.) Oh, I am so glad you are safe. Now you had better get back into bed.

GRANMA: Oh no. I've learned my lesson. It was only through me being a silly old woman and taking to my bed when there was no need that any of this happened.

(ENTER COOKIE AND JACK.)

COOKIE: Red Riding Hood we want you to be the first to know. We're engaged. (SHOWS RING WITH HUGE PIECE OF GLASS IN IT.)

RED RIDING HOOD: Why that's wonderful Cookie. Hooked him at last have you?

GRANMA: You'd better not drop that ring and break it. You don't want seven year's bad luck to start with.

JACK: Waht do you mean?

COOKIE: How dare you Granma.

HAL: Granma has just had a nasty experience. She was chased by a wolf.

COOKIE: Waht at her age!

RED RIDING HOOD: You don't unddrstand Cookie. This was a real wolf.

GRANMA: Do you know when he came into the cottage he was an ordinary man, then there was a flash and he was a wolf. It's a good job I'm pretty wuick off the mark or i'd now be "late Granma."

RED RIDING HOOD: After Granma got away I came in and he sprang on me and would have eaten me. (ENTER FAIRY.)

FAIRY: Well done Hal, you have broken the spell under which you have been living for so long. You have saved the life of your true love. Now you can once more take your rightful place as Prince.

RED RIDING HOOD: A prince!

HAL: Yes dear, Red Riding Hood but because I accidentally annoyed a Magician, he made me live the life of a woodman until I could break the spell.

COOKIE: Now why don't you all go back to Red Riding Hood's house to make arrangements for your wedding. I'll just clear up here then I'll follow on to fix up ours.

(THEY EXIT. COOKIE MOVES FORWARD. TABS CLOSE.)

COOKIE: (LINES LEADING TO CHORUS SONG.)

SCENE 7. THE PALACE.

(FINAL WALK DOWN IN ORDER TO BE GIVEN LATER.)